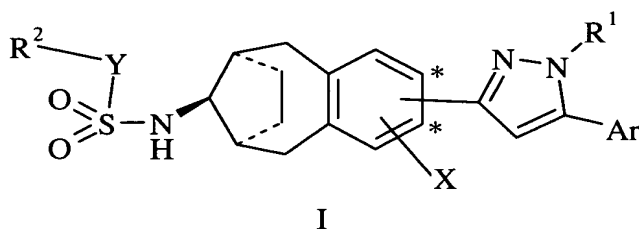


Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (original) A compound of formula I:



wherein the pyrazole group is attached at one of the positions indicated by an asterisk and X is attached at a position adjacent thereto;

X represents H, OH, C₁₋₄alkoxy, Cl or F;

Y represents a bond, O or NR³;

Ar represents phenyl or 6-membered heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

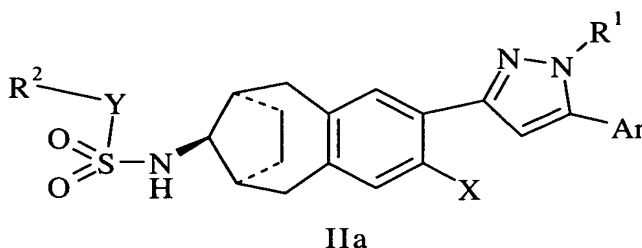
R¹ represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-5 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms; and

R² represents a hydrocarbon group of 1-10 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 halogen atoms, or heteroaryl of 5 or 6 ring atoms optionally bearing up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy; or when Y represents NR³, R² and R³ together may complete a heterocyclic ring of up to 6 members which optionally bears up to 3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CF₃, CHF₂, CH₂F, NO₂, CN, OCF₃, C₁₋₆alkyl and C₁₋₆alkoxy;

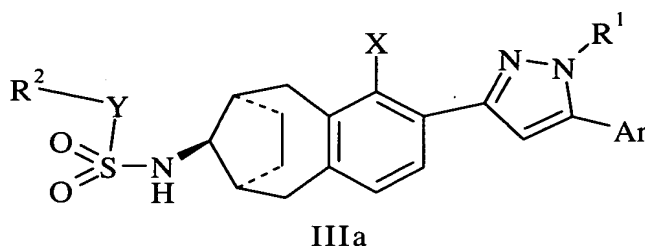
R³ represents H or C₁₋₄alkyl, or together with R² completes a heterocyclic ring as defined above;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 2 (Original) A compound according to claim 1 of formula IIa:



or formula IIIa:



wherein X, Y, Ar, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any previous claim 1~~ wherein X represents H.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any previous claim 1~~ wherein Y is a bond and R² represents optionally substituted phenyl or heteroaryl or C₁₋₆alkyl.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein Y is O and R² represents alkyl or cycloalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-3~~ claim 1 wherein Y is NH or NMe and R² represents alkyl or cycloalkyl of up to 6 carbon atoms which is optionally substituted with up to 3 fluorine atoms.

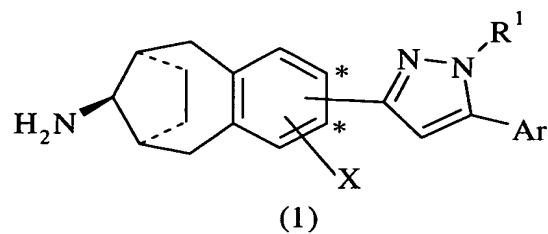
Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1-8~~ claim 1 wherein Y is NR³ and R² and R³ complete a heterocyclic ring.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any previous claim 1~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claims 9-10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to Alzheimer's disease which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1-7~~.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a compound according to claim 1 comprising reaction of an amine (1) with R^2 -Y-SO₂Cl:



where X, Y, Ar, R¹ and R² and are as defined in claim 1.